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# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF

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July 10, 2002

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554



Re: Ex Parte Presentations GN Docket 00-185; CS Docket 02-52;  
CC Dockets 02-33, 95-20, 98-10, and 01-337

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On July 8, 2002, Frank Bowe of the National Association of the Deaf, Jim House of TDI, Paul Schroeder and Alan Dinsmore of the American Foundation for the Blind, Charles Crawford of the American Council of the Blind, Andrew Imparato and Kim Borowicz of the American Association of People with Disabilities, and Tim Creagan of Self Help for Hard of Hearing People met with Susan Eid of Chairman Powell's staff, Matthew Brill of Commissioner Abernathy's staff, and Commissioner Michael Copps for the purpose of discussing broadband and people with disabilities.

Distributed by hand at these meetings was "Broadband and Americans with Disabilities," a new report on the subject. That report, in full, is posted at: <http://www.newmillenniumresearch.org/disability.pdf> and also at: [http://people.hofstra.edu/faculty/frank\\_g\\_bowe/bb](http://people.hofstra.edu/faculty/frank_g_bowe/bb). Also distributed by hand were copies of comments filed with the FCC under the above-cited dockets by some of the organizations, notably SHHH. Since those comments are already in the possession of the Commission, they are not included in this letter.

The organizational representatives made the case that Americans with disabilities are very much concerned that unless the FCC acts affirmatively to ensure accessibility to and usability by people with disabilities, broadband services – notably the information itself and the end-user devices required to receive, create, use, and send broadband information – may be inaccessible for many Americans with disabilities. The representatives asked about broadband accessibility in wireline and in cable-modem broadband.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Frank G. Bowe

Confirmed

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